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Viewing the Back of My Head

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Viewing the Back of My Head

Matthew Hurley

If ever I were to fall into a black hole,
several questions from my astronomy lectures would come to mind:
Have I passed the ergosphere?
How long until I cross the event horizon?
I can see the stars above me contracting
to form a narrow circle in space.
So I must be within the photon sphere,
which isn't so bad, I think, because
now I can rest easy on that term paper.

Soon I will only see the back of my head
in all directions.
How comforting to think
that back at home, my lover could peer through a telescope
and watch millions of light years away
the image of my body, forever stretched and disfigured.
A timeless memento.